

AFRICA: Monthly Climate Outlook December to September

Issued: March 2026

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Overview

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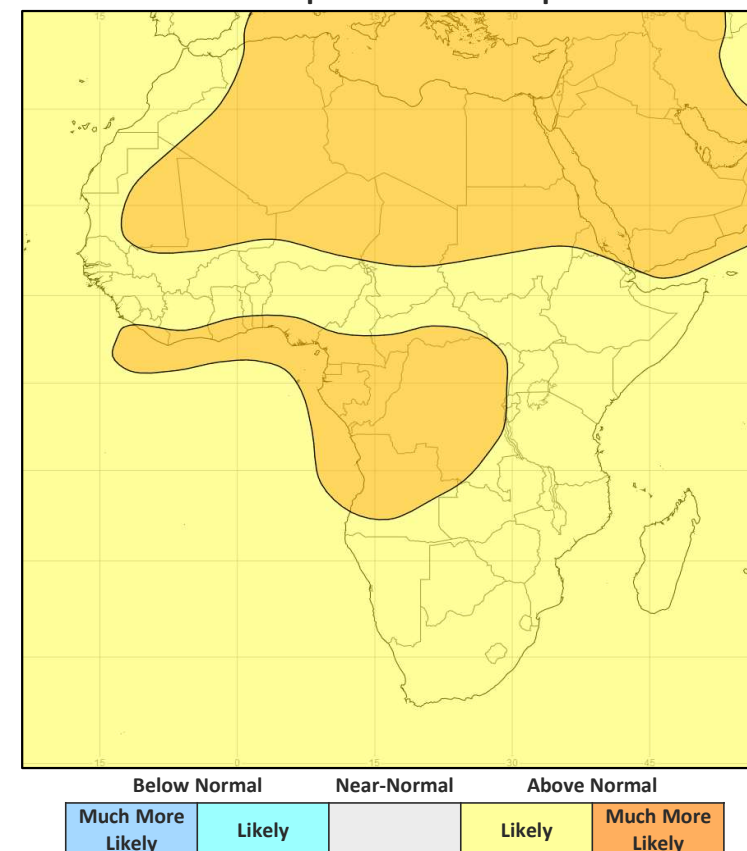
[Global Outlook – Rainfall](#)

Africa Current Status and Outlook - Temperature

Current Status: Many parts of central and western Africa were warm or hot over the last three months. In East Africa, some parts of Ethiopia and Tanzania were cold in February, otherwise warm or hot conditions were observed. Conditions have been more mixed in southern Africa with cold conditions prevailing for Zimbabwe and Madagascar.

Outlook: Warmer than normal conditions are likely across the whole continent, with confidence highest in parts of northern Africa and the tropics.

3-Month Outlook April to June - Temperature



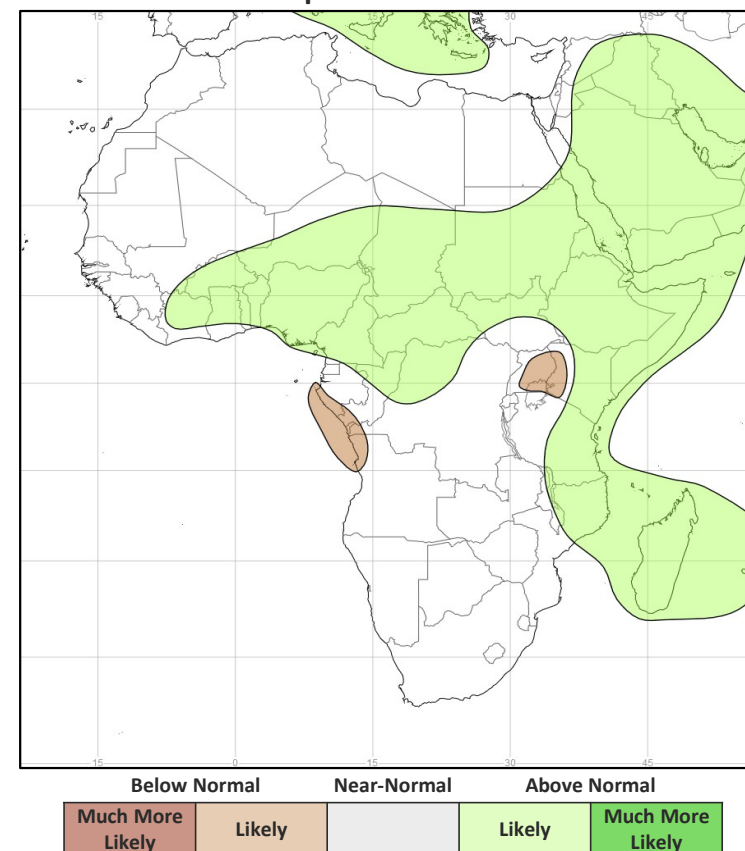
Africa Current Status and Outlook - Rainfall

Current Status: During the rainy season over southern Africa, many areas were wet or very wet in December. Nearer normal conditions were observed in January except for southern Mozambique which was very wet. During February more mixed conditions were observed with parts of southwest South Africa wet, along with northern Mozambique, Malawi and eastern Zambia, whereas southern Mozambique was dry. Conditions have been mixed across Central and Eastern Africa. DRC was wet in January, this restricted to the north in February with southern areas becoming dry. Much of Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda were wet in February. The December to February period is the dry season in West Africa. The main exception coastal districts, many of which were wet or very wet.

Outlook: With ENSO-neutral conditions prevailing over the next few months, predictability will be lower than earlier in the year when La Niña was active. However, warmer than normal sea-surface temperatures in the western Indian Ocean, may help fuel heavier than normal rainfall across many parts of East Africa in the coming months.

The East Africa Long Rains continue through this period, with peak rainfall moving further north with time. For most of East Africa, there is a small increase in the chance of wetter than normal conditions, although for Uganda and the Kenyan Highlands, drier than normal conditions are more likely. Across the Sahel and western Africa, ahead of the monsoon season, wetter than normal is likely for Nigeria, Niger, Chad, parts of South Sudan and Sudan. Wetter than normal conditions are also most likely across northwestern parts of the DRC. Elsewhere, predictions are more uncertain, with no strong signals evident for wet or dry conditions.

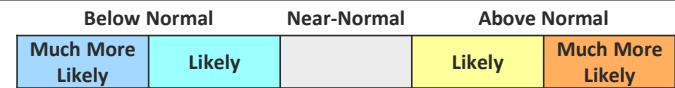
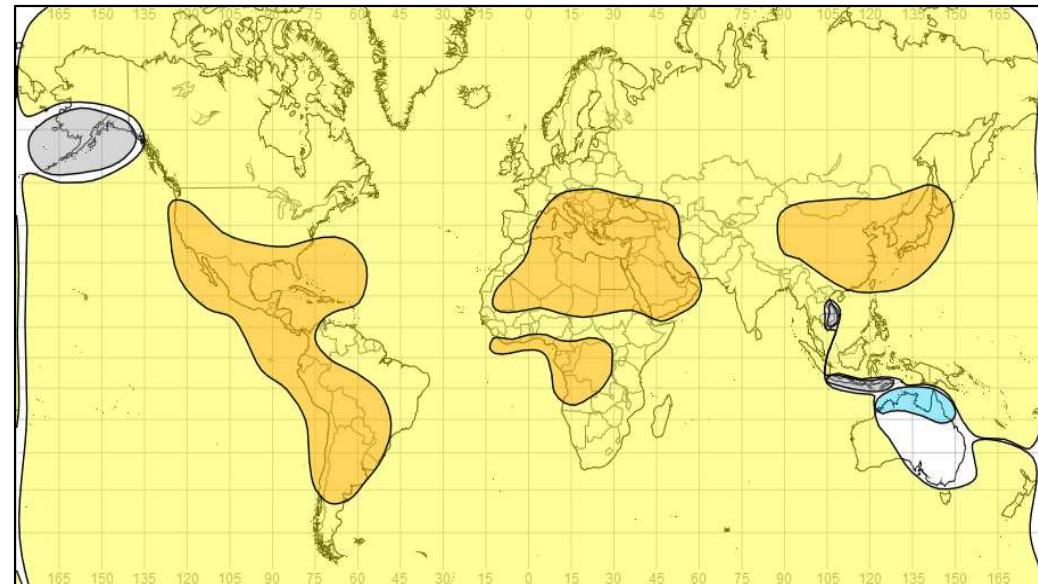
3-Month Outlook April to June - Rainfall



Global Outlook - Temperature

Outlook: With the backdrop of a warming climate and the increased chances of El Niño developing later this year, most land areas are likely to be warmer than normal with limited exceptions. These include northern Australia, southern parts of Indonesia and Vietnam where near normal temperatures or colder than normal conditions are more likely.

3-Month Outlook April to June - Temperature



Global Outlook - Rainfall

Outlook:

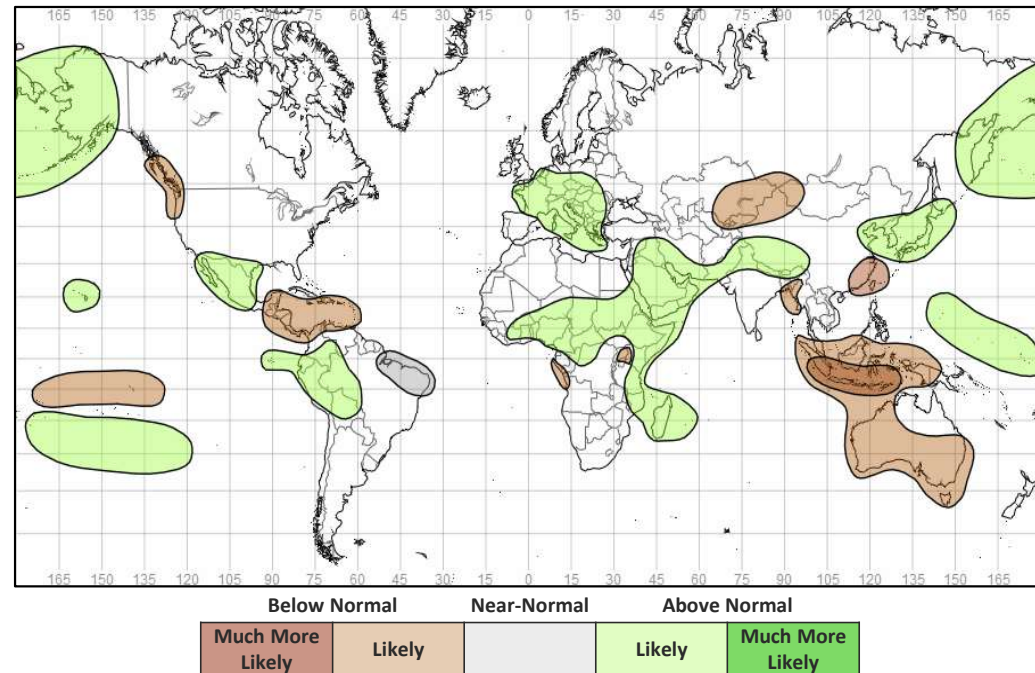
El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) – La Niña continues to decay in the tropical Pacific Ocean. Even as La Niña weakens, it can continue to influence global weather and climate. However, this effect is likely to be short-lived, probably only lasting a few more weeks.

ENSO-neutral is expected to prevail during the northern hemisphere spring. There are increasing chances of El Niño at longer forecast lead times (early- to mid-summer), though uncertainty is high because of the spring prediction barrier, which typically is associated with lower forecast accuracy. According to NOAA, the chance of ENSO-neutral in the period April – June is over 80%, with the chance of El Niño around 15%. Looking further ahead there is an increased chance of El Niño developing during the coming northern hemisphere summer – NOAA currently rate the likelihood of El Niño developing during the period June to August of around 62%. However, it is worth noting that we are approaching the time of year when ENSO predictions have the lowest skill. In summary, ENSO-neutral conditions are expected for much of the Northern Hemisphere spring with a likely transition to El Niño in early- to mid-summer.

Depending on the time of year, El Niño typically results in drier than normal conditions across Southern Africa, the Indian subcontinent, Southeast Asia, and northern South America, and wetter than normal conditions in parts of East Africa, southern Europe, southern USA, and parts of South America and East Asia. More information on typical impacts can be found here <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/climate/seasonal-to-decadal/gpc-outlooks/el-nino-la-nina/enso-impacts>

Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) – The Indian Ocean Dipole is neutral and therefore won't provide any predictive value for this period.

3-Month Outlook April to June - Rainfall



Current Status

[Current Status maps](#)

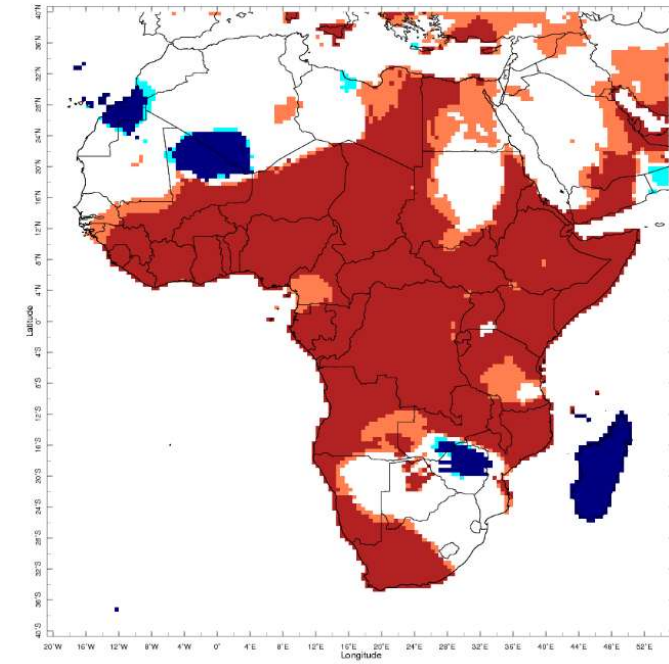
[Western Africa](#)

[Central Africa](#)

[Eastern Africa](#)

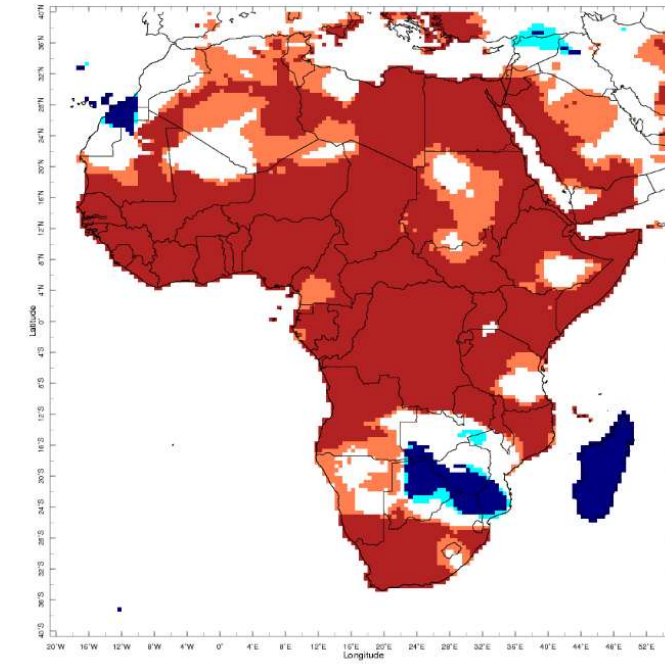
[Southern Africa](#)

Current Status – Temperature percentiles



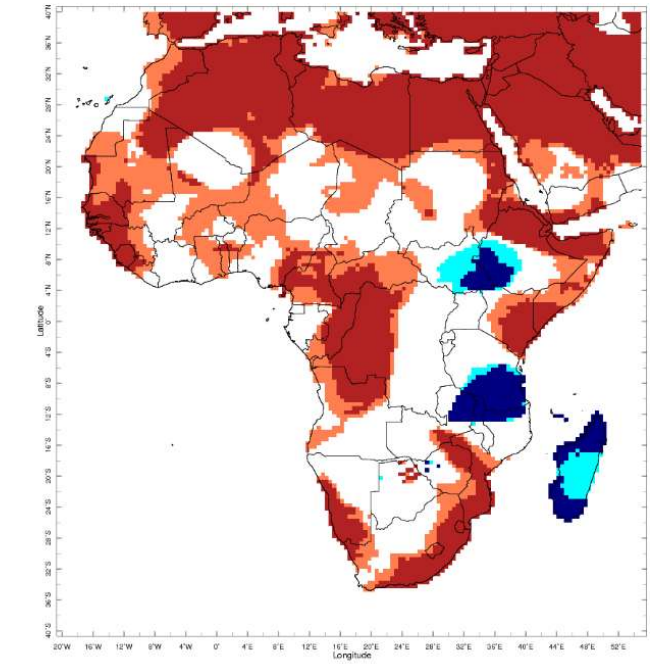
Dec 2025

December



Jan 2026

January



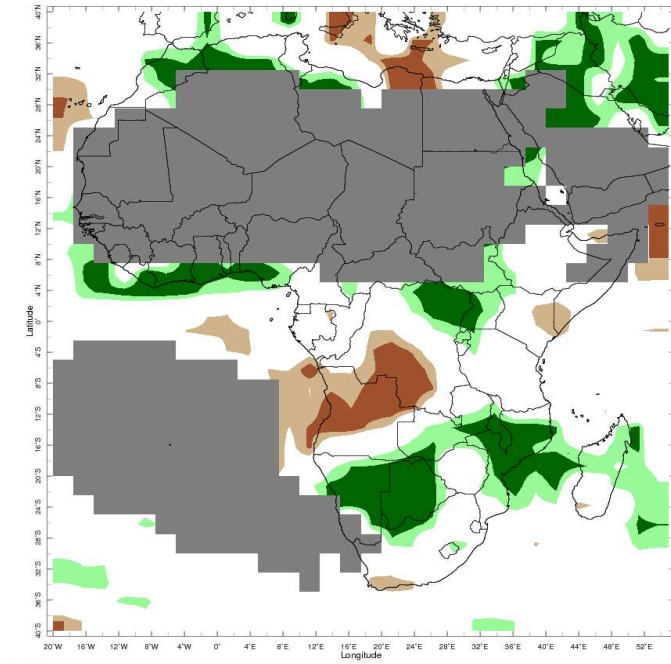
Feb 2026

February



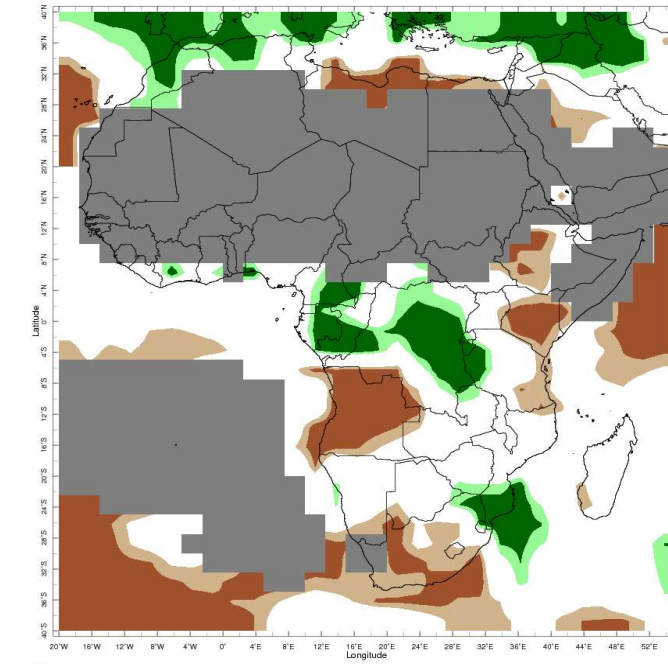
Notes: The percentiles shown in the map indicate a ranking of temperature, with the 0th percentile being the coolest and the 100th percentile being the warmest in the 1981-2010 climatology. Orange and red shading represent values above the 80th (Warm) and 90th (Hot) percentile, respectively; regions shaded in light and dark blue indicate values below the 20th (Cool) and 10th (Cold) percentile, with respect to the 1981-2010 climatology. The data used in this map are from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center.

Current Status – Precipitation percentiles



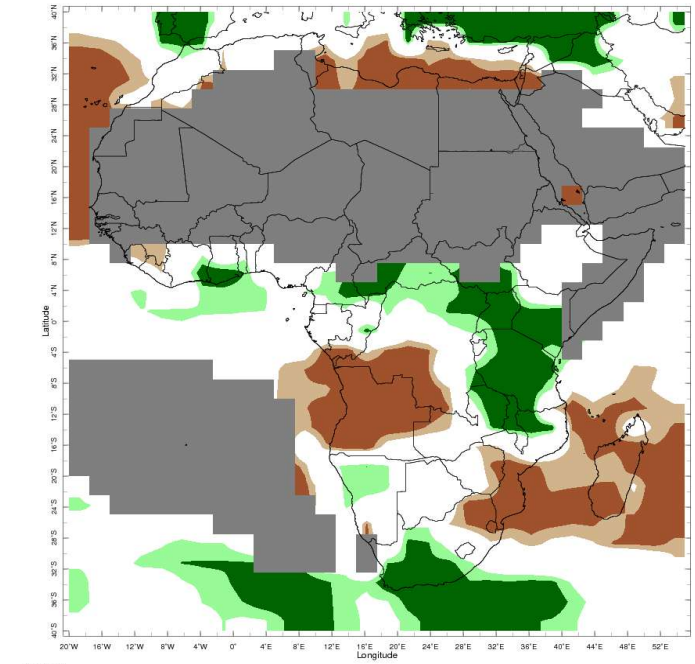
Dec 2025

December



Jan 2026

January



Feb 2026

February



Notes: The percentiles shown in the map indicate a ranking of rainfall, with the 0th percentile being the driest and the 100th percentile being the wettest in the 1981-2010 climatology. Green and dark green shading represent values above the 80th (Wet) and 90th (Very Wet) percentile, respectively; regions shaded in light and dark brown indicate rainfall below the 20th (Dry) and 10th (Very Dry) percentile, with respect to the 1981-2010 climatology. Grey areas on the map mask out regions that receive less than 10 mm/month of rainfall on normal in the 1981-2010 climatology for the month. The data used in this map are from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center.

Current Status – Western Africa (1)

| | Current Status: Temperature | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|---------|----------|
| | December | January | February |
| Mauritania | Normal | Warm | Warm |
| Sierra Leone | Hot | Hot | Hot |
| Liberia | Hot | Hot | Warm |
| Mali | Mixed (1) | Hot | Warm |

| | Current Status: Rainfall | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------|----------|
| | December | January | February |
| Mauritania | Normal* | Normal* | Normal* |
| Sierra Leone | Normal* | Normal* | Dry |
| Liberia | Very Wet | Normal | Normal |
| Mali | Normal* | Normal* | Normal* |

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room:
<http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/>.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

Note (1): Hot in the south, Cold in the north

Current Status – Western Africa (2)

| | Current Status: Temperature | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|---------|----------|
| | December | January | February |
| Ghana | Hot | Hot | Warm |
| Nigeria | Hot | Hot | Warm |
| Cameroon | Normal | Normal | Hot |
| Burkina Faso | Hot | Hot | Warm |

| | Current Status: Rainfall | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------|-----------|
| | December | January | February |
| Ghana | Mixed (1) | Normal | Mixed (1) |
| Nigeria | Mixed (1) | Normal | Normal |
| Cameroon | Normal | Wet | Wet |
| Burkina Faso | Normal* | Normal* | Normal* |

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room:
<http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/>.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

Note (1): Normal* but Very Wet in the far south

Current Status – Central Africa

| | Current Status: Temperature | | | Current Status: Rainfall | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------|----------|--------------------------|---------|-----------|
| | December | January | February | December | January | February |
| Niger | Hot | Hot | Warm | Normal* | Normal* | Normal* |
| Chad | Hot | Hot | Warm | Normal* | Normal* | Normal* |
| DRC | Mixed (1) | Hot | Hot (3) | Mixed (2) | Wet | Mixed (2) |

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room:
<http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/>.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

Note (1): Hot, but Normal in some southern and central parts

Note (2): Mainly Normal, but Very Dry in the southwest and Very Wet in the northeast

Note (3): Normal in the east

Current Status – Eastern Africa (1)

| | Current Status: Temperature | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------|
| | December | January | February |
| Sudan | Mixed (1) | Warm | Normal (3) |
| South Sudan | Hot | Warm | Cool |
| Uganda | Hot | Hot | Normal |
| Rwanda | Warm | Hot | Normal |

| | Current Status: Rainfall | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------|----------|
| | December | January | February |
| Sudan | Normal* | Normal* | Normal* |
| South Sudan | Normal* (2) | Normal* | Very Wet |
| Uganda | Wet | Normal | Very Wet |
| Rwanda | Wet | Wet | Wet |

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room: <http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/>.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

Note (1): Normal, but Hot in southern, eastern and western parts

Note (2): Wet in the southeast

Note (3): Hot in the east

Current Status – Eastern Africa (2)

| | Current Status: Temperature | | | Current Status: Rainfall | | |
|----------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|---------|----------|
| | December | January | February | December | January | February |
| Tanzania | Mixed (1) | Mixed (1) | Mixed (2) | Normal | Normal | Very Wet |
| Eritrea | Hot | Hot | Hot | Normal* | Normal* | Normal* |
| Ethiopia | Hot | Hot | Mixed (3) | Normal | Dry | Normal |
| Kenya | Hot | Hot | Hot (4) | Normal | Dry | Very Wet |
| Somalia | Hot | Hot | Warm | Normal | Normal* | Normal* |

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room:
<http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/>.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

Note (1): Mainly Hot, but Normal in parts of the east

Note (2): Normal in the north, Cold in the south

Note (3): Hot in the northeast, Cold in the southwest

Note (4): Cold in the far northwest

Current Status – Southern Africa

| | Current Status: Temperature | | | Current Status: Rainfall | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| | December | January | February | December | January | February |
| South Africa | Mixed (2) | Mixed (2) | Warm | Normal | Dry (6) | Mixed (8) |
| Zambia | Mixed (3) | Mixed (3) | Mixed (4) | Wet | Normal | Normal (9) |
| Zimbabwe | Cold | Cold | Mixed (1) | Normal | Normal | Normal |
| Mozambique | Mixed (1) | Mixed (1) | Mixed (2) | Very Wet | Normal (8) | Mixed (6) |
| Malawi | Hot | Hot | Cold | Very Wet | Normal | Very Wet |
| Madagascar | Cold | Cold | Mixed (4) | Mixed (5) | Normal | Very Dry |

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room: <http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/>.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

- Note (1):** Warm or Hot in the north, Normal or Cold in the south
- Note (2):** Mainly Hot, but Normal or Cold in the northeast
- Note (3):** Normal in the southwest, Hot in the northeast
- Note (4):** Mainly Normal, but Cold in the north or northeast
- Note (5):** Normal in the south, Wet in the north
- Note (6):** Dry or Very Dry across most areas, Very Wet in the far north
- Note (7):** Very Wet in far south
- Note (8):** Very Wet in the south, Very dry in the north
- Note (9):** Very Wet in the east

Outlooks

[Notes for use](#)

[Western Africa](#)

[Central Africa](#)

[Eastern Africa](#)

[Southern Africa](#)

Outlooks: Notes for use

Outlooks for months 4 to 6:

As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range.

Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Climatological odds:

A forecast is only provided in the outlooks where there is information in the model data about likely outcomes. Therefore, where the likelihoods for above, near and below normal conditions are evenly balanced the phrase 'climatological odds' will be used. This means the outcome could fall anywhere within the possible climatological range. Near-normal conditions should not necessarily be assumed, and users should update with shorter-term forecasts when available.

Outlook: April to September – Western Africa (1)

| | | Forecast summary | | |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| | | April | April to June | July to September |
| Mauritania | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Much more likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Climatological odds | Climatological odds | Climatological odds |
| Sierra Leone | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Climatological odds | Climatological odds | Climatological odds |
| Liberia | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Much more likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Climatological odds | Climatological odds | Climatological odds |
| Mali | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Much more likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Climatological odds | Climatological odds | Climatological odds |

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: April to September – Western Africa (2)

| | | Forecast summary | | |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| | | April | April to June | July to September |
| Ghana | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Much more likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Climatological odds | Likely to be wetter than normal | Climatological odds |
| Nigeria | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal | Climatological odds |
| Cameroon | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Much more likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal | Climatological odds |
| Burkina Faso | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Climatological odds | Likely to be wetter than normal | Climatological odds |

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: April to September – Central Africa

| | | Forecast summary | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|---|---|---------------------------------|
| | | April | April to June | July to September |
| Niger | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Much more likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal | Climatological odds |
| Chad | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Much more likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal | Climatological odds |
| Democratic Republic of Congo | Temperature | Much more likely to be warmer than normal | Much more likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal in the northwest, Climatological odds elsewhere | Climatological odds |

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: April to September – Eastern Africa (1)

| | | Forecast summary | | |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| | | April | April to June | July to September |
| Sudan | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Much more likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal | Climatological odds |
| South Sudan | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal in the north, Climatological odds in the south | Likely to be drier than normal |
| Uganda | Temperature | Likely to be near-normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be drier than normal | Likely to be drier than normal |

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: April to September – Eastern Africa (2)

| | | Forecast summary | | |
|----------|-------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| | | April | April to June | July to September |
| Tanzania | Temperature | Likely to be near-normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal in the east, Climatological odds in the west | Climatological odds |
| Rwanda | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Climatological odds | Climatological odds | Likely to be drier than normal |
| Eritrea | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Much more likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal | Climatological odds |

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: April to September – Eastern Africa (3)

| | | Forecast summary | | |
|----------|-------------|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| | | April | April to June | July to September |
| Ethiopia | Temperature | Likely to be near-normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal | Climatological odds |
| Kenya | Temperature | Likely to be near-normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal but Likely to be drier than normal in the Highlands | Climatological odds |
| Somalia | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal | Climatological odds |

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: April to September – Southern Africa (1)

| | | Forecast summary | | |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| | | April | April to June | July to September |
| South Africa | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Climatological odds | Climatological odds | Climatological odds |
| Zambia | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Climatological odds | Climatological odds | Climatological odds |
| Zimbabwe | Temperature | Likely to be near-normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Climatological odds | Climatological odds | Climatological odds |
| Mozambique | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal in the north, Climatological odds elsewhere | Climatological odds |

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: April to September – Southern Africa (1)

| | | Forecast summary | | |
|------------|-------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | April | April to June | July to September |
| Malawi | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal | Climatological odds |
| Madagascar | Temperature | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal | Likely to be warmer than normal |
| | Rainfall | Likely to be wetter than normal | Likely to be wetter than normal | Climatological odds |

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Annex 1 – Supplemental Information

For further information

WMO Lead Centre for Long-Range Forecast Multi-Model Ensemble (LC-LRFMME)

https://www.wmolc.org/seasonPmmeUI/plot_PMME

International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)

<http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/>

NOAA El Niño technical info

<https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/enso/>

Met Office

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/government/international-development>

Climate Outlook Fora ([WMO Factsheet](#)), including:

Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF): [Statement from the 71st Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum \(GHACOF 71\) | AICCRA](#) (August 2025)

Southern African Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF): [File: Statement from the 31st Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum \(SARCOF-31\) - Anticipation Hub](#) (September 2025)

South-West Indian Ocean Climate Outlook Forum (SWIOCOF) - [South-West Indian Ocean Climate Outlook Forum \(SWIOCOF-14a\)](#) (July 2025)

Technical notes

The [WMO lead centre for long-range forecast multi-model ensemble \(LC-LRFMME\)](#) produce a probabilistic multi-model mean forecast product in which the multi-model mean is based on uncalibrated model output with a model weighting system that accounts for errors in both the forecast probability and ensemble mean. The method used by LC-LRFMME separately computes a probabilistic forecast and calculates tercile probabilities with respect to climatology for each individual model, before creating the weighted multi-model mean. In seasonal prediction, shifts in the tercile probabilities are always closely associated with the shifts in the probability of extremes, and we can use the probability of terciles to provide information on the likelihood of above- or below- normal conditions. The thresholds used in the forecast summaries are defined below.

Seasonal forecasts rely on the aspects of the global weather and climate system that are more predictable, such as tropical sea-surface temperatures or the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO). However, whilst such forecasts may be able to show what is more or less likely to occur, they acknowledge that other outcomes are possible.

In addition, forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range so the 6-month outlook is less reliable. It is also based on less information, because not all models are available to this range. Therefore the information presented here should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards, and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

In the report and tables precipitation is referred to as rainfall but in fact encompasses any form of water, liquid or solid, falling from the sky. Temperatures are the (2 metre) near-surface temperature.

| Description | Definition |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Much more likely to be below normal | When probability of lower tercile > 70% |
| More likely to be below normal | When probability of lower tercile is 40-70% |
| Likely to be near-normal | When probability of middle tercile is 40-70% |
| Much more likely to be near-normal | When probability of middle tercile > 70% |
| Likely to be above normal | When probability of upper tercile is 40-70% |
| Much more likely to be above normal | When probability of upper tercile > 70% |
| Climatological odds | When probabilities for all categories are roughly 33% |

Global Producing Centres (GPC) forecasts used by WMO LC-LRFMME:

- GPC CPTEC (INPE),
- GPC ECMWF,
- GPC Exeter (Met Office),
- GPC Melbourne (BOM),
- GPC Montreal (CMC),
- GPC Moscow (Hydromet Centre of Russia),
- GPC Offenbach (DWD),
- GPC Pretoria (SAWS),
- GPC Seoul (KMA),
- GPC Tokyo (JMA),
- GPC Toulouse (Meteo France),
- GPC Washington (NCEP)

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